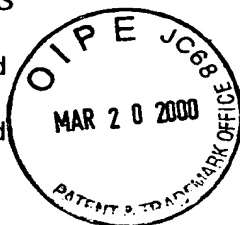


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KÖSTER *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/484,484
Filed: January 18, 2000
For: SOLUTION PHASE BIOPOLYMER
SYNTHESIS
Art Unit: Unassigned
Examiner: Unassigned



I hereby certify that this paper and the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date:

03/13/00
Date

Shelley M. Callagy

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-captioned application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

- Please amend the specification as follows:
 - at page 21, line 13, please replace "indpendently" with —independently—;
 - at page 26, line 19, please replace "preferalby" with —preferably—.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A liquid phase carrier (LPC) of formula $Sp(X^1)_n$, wherein:
Sp is a polyvalent group that has more than two points of attachment, n is the number of points of attachment in Sp and X^1 is a reactive group for synthesis [synthesis] of biopolymers.